



**SUPPLIES
FOR
DREAMS**

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2019



TABLE OF CONTENTS



03 LETTER FROM THE CEO
05 OUR CHALLENGE
06 OUR VISION
08 AWARD-A-FIELD TRIP
10 ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT
12 QUALITY ASSURANCE
14 EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABILITY
16 ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
18 HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TEAM
20 ASSOCIATES BOARD
21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
22 GIFT SHOWCASE
23 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

LETTER FROM THE *Executive Director*

Dear friends,

Thank you for making 2019 another great year for Supplies for Dreams! 2019 marks the 11-year anniversary of Supplies for Dreams and it is incredible just how far we have come since our founding in 2008. In these 11 years, we have provided backpacks and school supplies to tens of thousands of students in Chicago Public Schools. With the introduction of our Academic Enrichment mentoring program and our signature Award-A-Field-Trip program, we have also enabled our members and volunteers to touch the lives of thousands of students over the years.

In 2019, we continued to focus our resources on providing high-quality programming for our students through our Academic Enrichment and Award-A-Field-Trip programs. Our partnership with Cradles to Crayons has allowed us to spend greater amounts of time and resources on these unique programs while still providing our students with the school supplies that they need. In this year alone, we were able to spark the curiosity of 751 Chicago Public School students through our unique Award-A-Field-Trip program. We also launched a new initiative of incorporating the Northwestern University campus as a new field trip site for students to recognize the opportunities of higher-level education and to spark a passion for further learning. At the same time, we continued to expand our Academic Enrichment mentoring program, which served 80 students in 2019 as we enabled our students to learn from the experiences of our many volunteers.

Our expansion to new chapters at Loyola University and the University of Chicago has also been progressing smoothly. Both chapters have been able to successfully run both our Academic Enrichment mentoring



program and our Award-A-Field-Trip programs independently in 2019. Even though our expansion plans have taken longer than expected, we have high hopes that they will be successful in growing their membership and achieving a high level of impact with the students that they serve.

These amazing achievements would not have been possible without your continued support. I am immensely grateful for all of you and your unwavering belief in investing in the future of Chicago's children. It is you, our dedicated supporters, who make it possible for us to do great things for our students. As we continue to grow and serve larger communities, we look forward to your continued support as we make education more equitable and accessible for our students. Thank you.

Yours faithfully,
James Zhao

NEARLY

1 in 5

CPS STUDENTS DO NOT GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL

**HOWEVER, BETWEEN
2015 AND 2019, CPS
FOUR-YEAR GRADUATION
RATES GREW****14.4%****SUPPLIES FOR DREAMS***is working to increase such positive trends*

*statistics reflect data as of 2019

OUR CHALLENGE

At Supplies for Dreams, we believe that every student has the potential to succeed, and that means that each student deserves a realistic opportunity to build and achieve their dreams. Unfortunately, many students across the greater Chicago area do not currently have the resources they need to reach their full academic potential. That's why we are working to ensure that every student, regardless of background and circumstance, receives the opportunities and support that they deserve.

Due to lack of adequate funding and support, many Chicago Public Schools (CPS) are unable to provide their students with a first-rate education. In recent years, the district has experienced record-breaking drops in student enrollment, which has led to cuts in teacher wages and school closures. In 2019, these cuts led to a two-week strike when members of the Chicago Teachers Union (CTU) mounted picket lines to fight for nurses, social workers, and librarians in every school, as well as more special education classroom assistants and case managers. In the nation's third-largest school district, the strike affected over 300,000 CPS students, 76.4% of whom qualify for free or reduced lunch and would benefit from the additional resources that striking union members said they were fighting for. The strike culminated in a deal between the city and the

CTU. According to AP News,* the deal included increased wages for teachers over five years, class size caps, and a commitment to staff schools with more support staff such as social workers, and nurses.

As the world continues to advance technologically, it is increasingly vital for young students to be prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow. It is unrealistic for us to not meet children's educational needs and still expect them to obtain the skills sought by emerging industries and employers. The American standard of education is not slowing down for anyone. At Supplies for Dreams, we believe it is our social responsibility to support the next generation in developing the skills needed to keep up with the advancing world. Thus, we work to equip minds through much-needed programming, and we give students the tools to both tap into their curiosity about the world and engage with their aspirations for the future.

Students thrive in safe, stable, and nurturing environments. For many CPS students today, these conditions are simply not available with the resources that their districts provide. We believe that we have the power to revolutionize students' learning experiences and seek to do so with our programming.

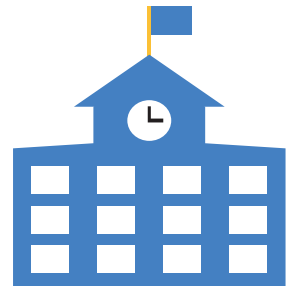
*Foody, Kathleen. "Chicago Teachers Approve Contract Deal That Ended Strike." AP NEWS, Associated Press, 16 Nov. 2019, apnews.com/cbb0f23743e84683b53799c640c6635b.

OUR VISION



EVERY COMMUNITY

fosters a curiosity of the world within its youth, inspiring a culture of learning, academic achievement, and lifelong success



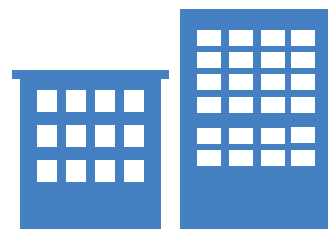
EVERY SCHOOL

is supported by the community through local businesses, organizations, and government branches



EVERY STUDENT

has their basic educational needs met, including school supplies, a safe environment of learning, and supportive teachers/mentors



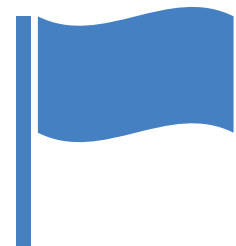
EVERY CITY

has the funding, political stability, and support needed to create a safe space for learning for each and every student



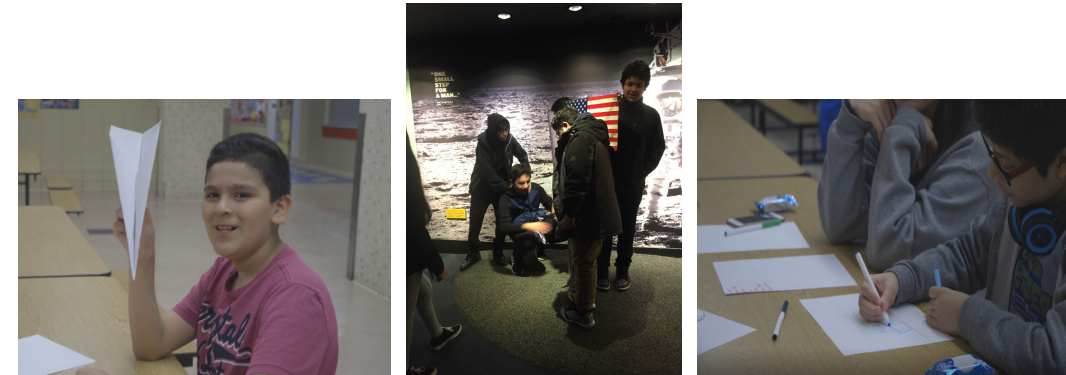
EVERY CLASSROOM

is led by teachers who have a true passion to invest in the future generation of students and a willingness to guide and care for each individual's growth



EVERY NATION

takes action toward establishing a stable education system that drives the country forward toward a stronger, brighter future



WE WANT TO MAKE SURE OUR

children are not penalized

FOR THE ZIP CODE IN WHICH THEY RESIDE



AWARD-A- Field Trip



IMPACT

In 2019, our Award-A-Field Trip (AAFT) committee provided 751 Chicago Public School students with interactive learning opportunities by taking them on 17 field trips to museums in Chicago. These sites include the Shedd Aquarium, the Field Museum, the Adler Planetarium, and the Chicago History Museum. In line with Supplies for Dreams' mission, the chance for CPS students to experience Northwestern's campus life is meant to help them recognize the opportunities of higher-level education and to spark a passion for further learning.

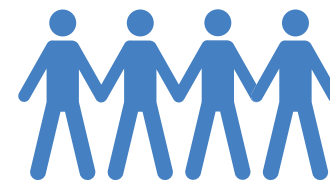
Through giving the gift of experiential learning to hundreds of CPS students, our Award-A-Field-Trip committee members have gained valuable experiences in return. The inspired minds and bright smiles of the students as they engage in new learning experiences fuels AAFT's drive to fulfill the program's mission. Committee director Christie Jok states, "I think I've had a really unique opportunity to grow in my leadership role and to be supported by my amazing team. I have also loved getting to know everyone on my team, both in the Supplies for Dreams context and outside of it. I'm really proud of how much we've been able to accomplish and how every one of them has handled any obstacle that has come their way! I can't wait to see what else we can do in the future!"

OVERVIEW

Supplies for Dreams' Award-A-Field-Trip (AAFT) program provides Chicago Public School students with the opportunity to participate in an engaging and unconventional way of learning. The AAFT committee takes students on field trips to Chicago museums and creates enriching, eye-opening curriculums to ensure maximum participation and interest.

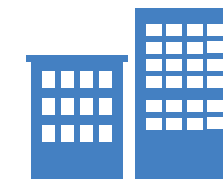
MISSION

AAFT aims to inspire students to think critically and promote agency and confidence. We design curriculum specifically for field trips in order to give students the opportunity to learn about cultural and historical perspectives through discussion and critical thinking.



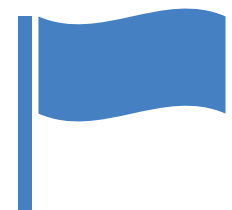
751

students were impacted by our incredible field trip programs



5

different locations learned about and explored



17

adventures embarked on with our students



GOALS

Academic Enrichment (AE) is committed to building relationships between mentors and mentees through weekly mentoring. The team's interactive, project-based curriculum encourages students to develop a love for learning, broad worldview, confidence, and agency. The team incorporates adult skill sets into their curriculum at a student-friendly level.

IMPACT

Unfortunately, this year we were unable to hold mentoring during the Chicago teachers' strike. This further forced AE to postpone mentoring at our partner schools for a few weeks following the strike's conclusion. However, once we could begin working with students again, the AE team was very excited to meet the mentees and roll out new and revised career curriculum. Despite the setbacks, we have seen that our curriculum has continued to positively influence students. Survey data showed that students at schools with the highest mentor engagement showed higher broad worldview and love of learning scores.

STRATEGIES

In order to improve upon last year's strategies, Academic Enrichment is now taking larger steps to collect feedback, ensure impact, and prepare mentors.

1 INTEGRATE TECHNOLOGY INTO THE CURRICULUM

We are developing new curriculum and supplementing old curriculum that included tech-based activities. Specifically, we made the career curriculum both more interactive and realistic through the use of iPads.

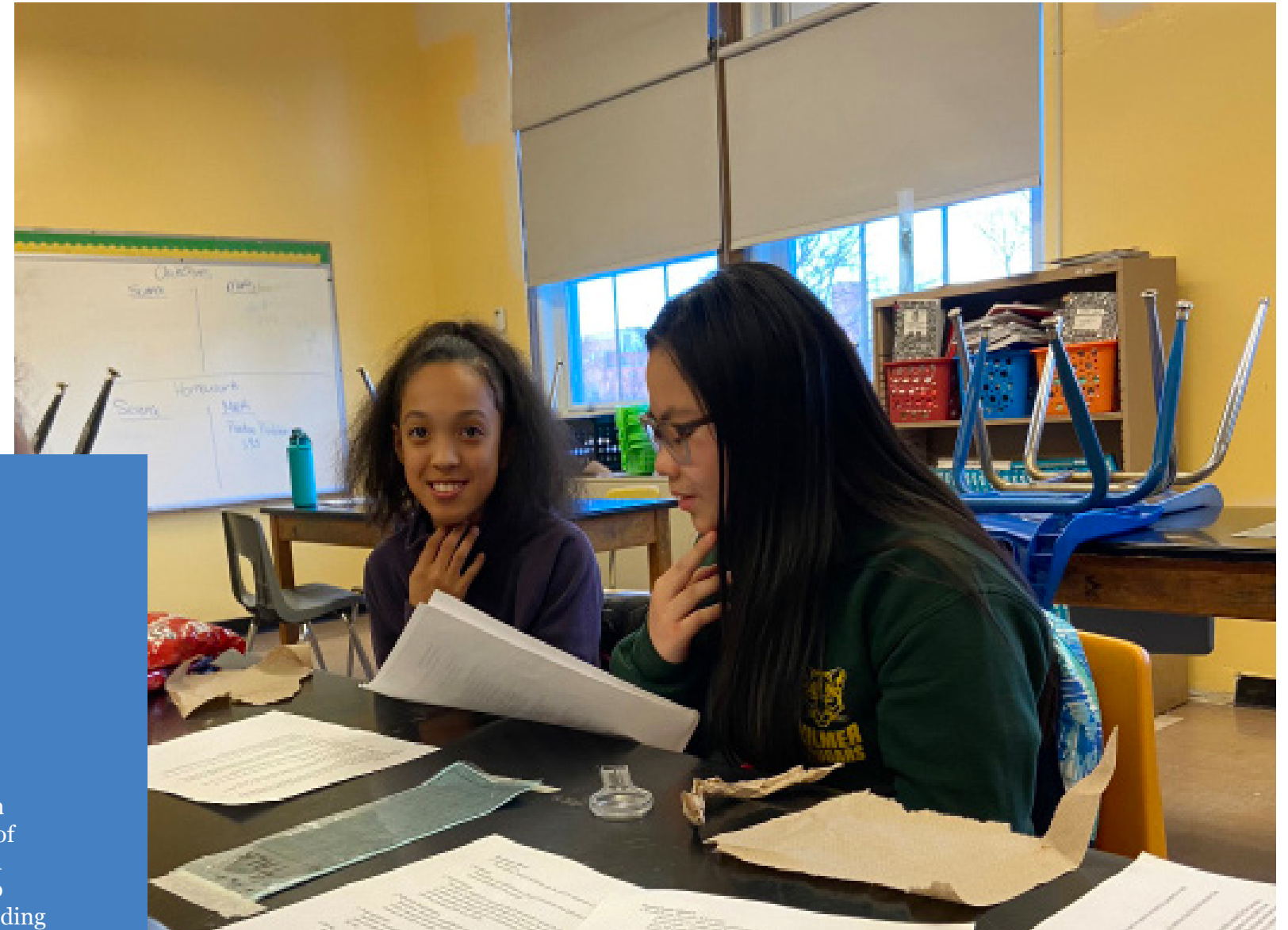
2 EXPAND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CURRICULUM

We are expanding personal development curriculum beyond the framework of Sean Covey's "The 7 Habits of Happy Kids" to better customize the curriculum to our mentees. We are also creating curriculum that allows both mentors and mentees to further develop both personal and interpersonal habits.

3 RESTRUCTURE COMMUNITY CURRICULUM

We are altering our curriculum to explore the various aspects of community, ranging from food to art. Our curriculum will also include fostering an understanding of the many ways to engage with a community, such as civic engagement and community service. Additionally, we are exploring a diverse spectrum of communities, from the school and neighborhood, to the city and the world that lies beyond.

ACADEMIC Enrichment



LOOKING AHEAD

In the upcoming year, AE aims to continue to add more partner schools to our programming in conjunction with Communities in Schools, another Chicago-based non-profit that works closely with CPS. We also hope to include more Chicago-area universities in our programming. We are planning to evaluate our curriculum's impact on students' social-emotional development through electronic surveys designed by Quality Assurance. We also hope to continue to write innovative curriculum that will benefit our students as they transition from middle to high school.

QUALITY Assurance



OVERVIEW

The Quality Assurance (QA) Committee uses quantitative and qualitative data to measure the impact of our programming on the CPS students we work with. The data that QA collects helps improve each of our programs. QA works to improve experiences and curriculum throughout our programs by implementing surveys, analyzing data, and recommending areas of improvement throughout the organization.

COMMUNICATION

The most important strategy that QA uses is communicating with other committees to identify which areas they would like more information on and establishing a schedule, recommendation, or protocol to address issues at hand. Much of the work in QA is collaborative, and the committee works to ensure everyone is on the same page.

LOOKING AHEAD

In the future, QA would like to establish feedback loops for all programming. This includes having surveys designed for all curriculum and field trip sites, developing survey metrics and an analysis protocol, and establishing a format and consistent schedule for generating summary reports. QA would also like to expand its involvement in non-programming committees, such as Marketing, Development, and Local Outreach. This could include social media engagement statistics, infographics, and assessments of QA's outreach and impact.

GOALS

The overarching goal of QA is to regularly assess and collect data about our programming, curriculum, and logistics in order to identify areas of improvement within the organization.

1 COLLECTING FEEDBACK

Establishing an Award-A-Field-Trip survey feedback loop for regular assessment of field trips that subsequently generates recommendations for curriculum improvement.

2 QUANTIFYING EVALUATION

Confirming the validity of our current Academic Enrichment survey feedback loop for mentees by scaling to all six partner schools and reevaluating our current survey analysis protocol.

3 MEASURING ENGAGEMENT

Creating metrics for assessing civic engagement and professional developing within SFD.

EXPANSION AND



Sustainability

PROGRESS, GOALS, AND LOOKING AHEAD

Supplies for Dreams aspires to expand its reach across Chicago and replicate the operating model established at our three current university chapters. We are of the concurrent need to both provide the best quality programming for our current students and also to reach more students and encourage innovation. Our three-step growth strategy, detailed below, enables us to achieve these goals.

1 FOCUS ON CORE COMPETENCIES

- Increase funding for programs focused on providing rich extracurricular experiences
- Develop and nurture a data-driven mentality to drive effective decision-making to further our impact on our students

2 INCREASE INVESTMENT IN TECHNOLOGY

- Integrate tablets into mentoring curriculum to bolster STEAM education (science, technology, engineering, art, mathematics)
- Use interactive applications associated with career curricula to simulate experiential learning
- Explore ways to incorporate technology into personal development and community curricula

3 LEVERAGE CHICAGO UNIVERSITIES

- Continue to establish chapters of Supplies for Dreams at universities and colleges across Chicago
- Assign each chapter to partner schools around Chicago and enable them to operate field trips and mentoring programs according to standards set by the parent organization
- Continue to focus on growing our chapter at Northwestern: conducting mentoring at four schools in addition to chaperoning the most field trips out of our three university chapters, Northwestern is our largest chapter and will continue receiving resources to further its individual impact

CORPORATE SHOWCASE

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SUPPLIES FOR DREAMS CHAPTER – \$9000



Northwestern University is the flagship chapter of Supplies for Dreams. Comprised of four committees and mentoring at four partner schools, Northwestern remains one of our strongest chapters. We are extremely pleased to announce the Northwestern Supplies for Dreams chapter as one of our top Corporate Sponsors.

NORTHERN TRUST – \$5000



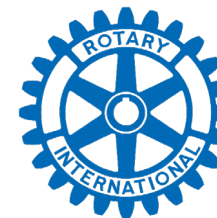
The Northern Trust spans 20,000 employees and a number of cities. One of the foremost financial services operations in the country, they remain committed to serving local communities, such as Chicago. Through encouraging employee service and matching gifts, the Northern Trust remains one of our top Corporate Sponsors.

FLOWERS FOR DREAMS – \$2139



Flowers for Dreams began as a college project aimed at selling roses and using some of the profits to buy backpacks for low-income students. This operation has grown substantially and spread across multiple states. Now, Flowers for Dreams sells locally crafted flowers to benefit local charities, and we are happy to announce that they are one of our top Corporate Sponsors.

WILMETTE HARBOR ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION – \$1000



The Wilmette Harbor Rotary Club Foundation is a local club offering volunteering, service, and charity opportunities in the community and internationally. Their dedication to service has helped support Supplies for Dreams as one of our top Corporate Sponsors.

UBS – \$550

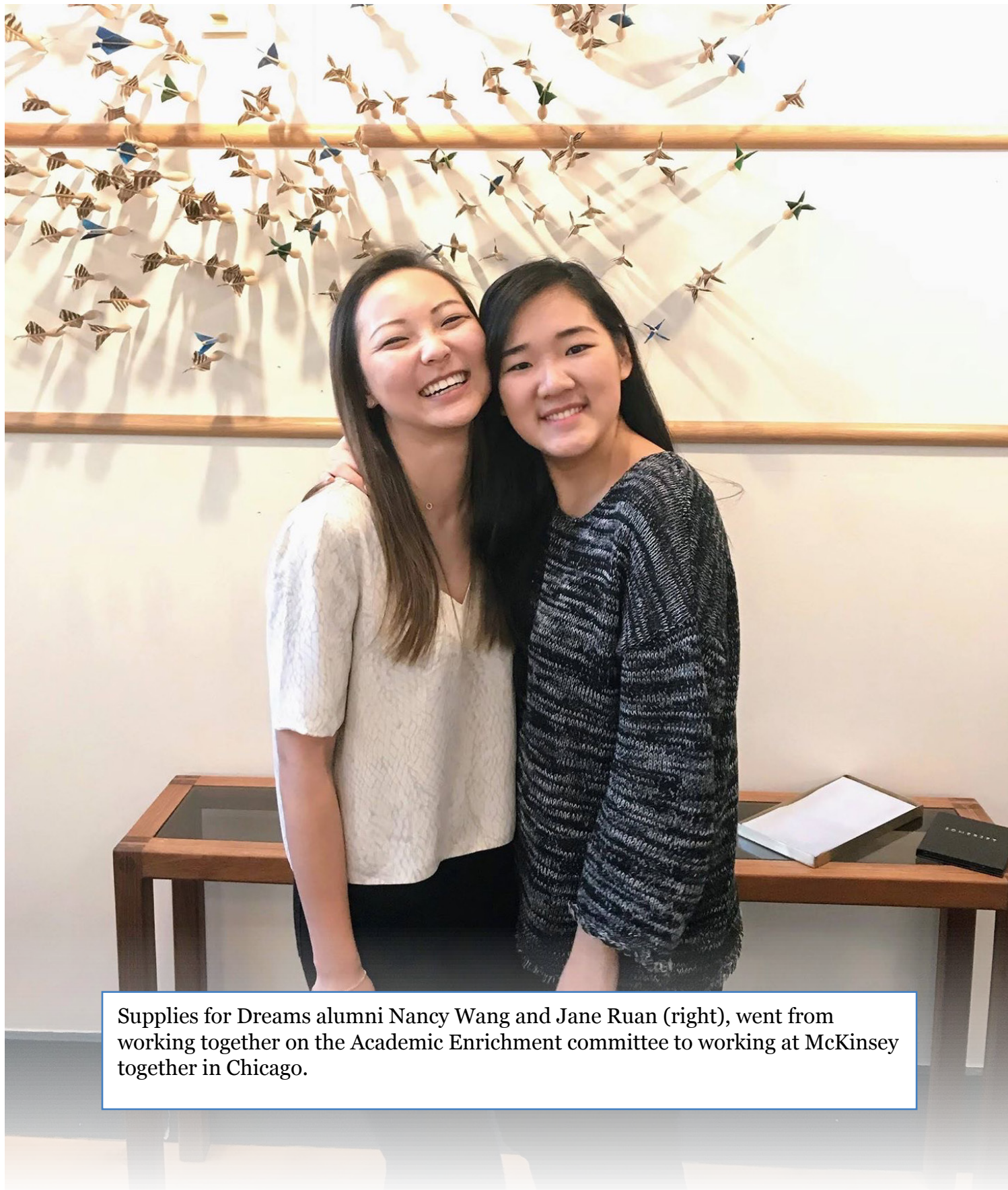


UBS is a global financial organization providing advice across over 50 countries. One of their missions is partnering for good, through encouraging their employees to get involved as well as working closely with others to ensure that their donations have full impact. Supplies for Dreams thanks UBS for its support to help us carry out our mission.

WANDER & CO. – \$500



Wander & Co. is a social cause company that creates products that directly benefits organizations making a positive change on the world. Impacting non-profits across all walks of life, Supplies for Dreams is grateful for Wander's support.



Supplies for Dreams alumni Nancy Wang and Jane Ruan (right), went from working together on the Academic Enrichment committee to working at McKinsey together in Chicago.

Alumni SPOTLIGHT

Northwestern alumni Jane Ruan, class of 2017, has been passionate about education even before she became involved with Supplies for Dreams during her time as an undergraduate. When she became part of the organization by joining the Academic Enrichment committee her sophomore year, she was able to have a hand in shaping a system that had significantly shaped her.

“I went through all kinds of school systems as I was growing up,” Ruan said. “I did homeschool when I first started for two years, then I went to public school in China. I went to public school in Canada and then public and private schools in the U.S. All kinds of school experiences led me to realize how important education was for me, and the environment and the people that were eventually my mentors in shaping my life and my experiences.”

In addition to shaping curriculum for Academic Enrichment, Ruan became a mentor and chaperoned field trips, allowing her to see the direct impact of the work she was doing.

“I think the most important thing to me is being able to actually go to the school and see the relationship, not necessarily only the things we’re able to show them, but the human relationship that we are able to establish,” Ruan said. “That was really what was close to my heart and drives this whole thing forward.”

This led her to the work she does now with an education non-profit called Generation. She also does consultant work at McKinsey and Company, where she happens to work with other alumni from Supplies for Dreams. With McKinsey, Ruan still partakes in education-based work, helping coordinate a small office initiative that takes the shape of a Saturday mentoring program with CPS students.

When she was with Supplies for Dreams, Ruan pioneered some of the programs and metric collecting methods that are still in place, such as DreamTrack, mentoring surveys, and expansion efforts. One of Ruan’s most important contributions involved the work she did with other members to cement the Supplies for Dreams model when they were looking to grow to other schools in the Chicagoland area.

“We started to process what is it that we want to replicate in other places, what is it that we want to expand,” Ruan said. “I think back then we had a pretty good program, but it was still ever-evolving. It was not super mature, not super standardized. So there was a lot of work put in to standardizing the programming that we wanted to take to another school.”

This culminated in the founding of chapters at University of Chicago in 2017 and subsequently Loyola in 2018. As the Academic Enrichment director her junior and senior year, Ruan acquired skills that transferred to her life post-graduation.

“Most importantly is working with a team or leading a team,” Ruan said. “I had truly a lot of learning and also a lot of fun working with a group of like-minded people but also coming from all different backgrounds, really passionate about kids and passionate about education and passionate about mentoring. That process of how to brainstorm and put things into action was really cool. [I learned] how to build a team from scratch, how to find the right people and then how to learn from each other.”

HIGHLIGHTS

from the Team



JOLIE BOULOS

“Getting to build relationships with the students while supporting their growth has been one of the most fulfilling parts of my experience as a mentor in SFD. Whether it be pushing the boundaries of their comfort zone in practicing public speaking and forming arguments through a mock trial, sharing smiles and giggles while making no-bake

cookie dough recipes during our culinary unit, or seeing their creative thinking skills at work while trying to make the most structurally sound gumdrop bridge, I looked forward to seeing our students every week and how they would approach the next exciting challenge.”



ERICA TASHMA

“I’ve seen with my own eyes the impact that Supplies has on the students at our partner schools. The first week of mentoring at Perez this school year, the seventh graders (who were mentees last year) immediately ran up to us when they heard that Supplies for Dreams was back. It was just really heartwarming to see that these kids were so welcoming to us and still so excited to see us even though they weren’t in the program.

They immediately started recounting memories from mentoring and were telling us how much they missed having mentoring. I then got to meet our new group of sixth graders, and I can imagine when you reach out to me next year that I’ll have a similar story of watching them light up as seventh graders when they see Supplies for Dreams again in their school.”

MADDY MOY

“As a graduate of Chicago Public Schools (CPS), I knew I wanted to be involved in an organization that gave back to my community. While I was in CPS, I experienced firsthand the lack of equitable funding and knew how this impacted the quality of my education. After hearing about Supplies, I was very excited to learn about an organization that offered students unique experiences outside of the classroom. Within Supplies, I’ve not only felt incredibly fulfilled to help our students but have also learned how to manage a team and build my communication skills, which will be helpful for whatever career I choose in the future.”



AALIYAH BERRYMAN

“My dream coming into Supplies for Dreams was to find an organization of civically engaged peers who wanted to work with communities outside of Northwestern. I found that and so much more within Supplies for Dreams. I found a group of people who are incredibly passionate about the schools, students, and communities that we work with, and who I know I can always rely on.”

SHANI KATZ

“I wanted to be a school coordinator because I missed being around younger students,” Shani said. “We learn so much from each other, and they always show me the little moments to appreciate, or how to get out of the Northwestern bubble. Mentoring has been my opportunity to grow while watching the students grow as well.”



ASSOCIATES BOARD

PROVIDES FUNDRAISING SUPPORT AND INCREASES AWARENESS OF THE ORGANIZATION WITHIN CHICAGO'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS COMMUNITY.



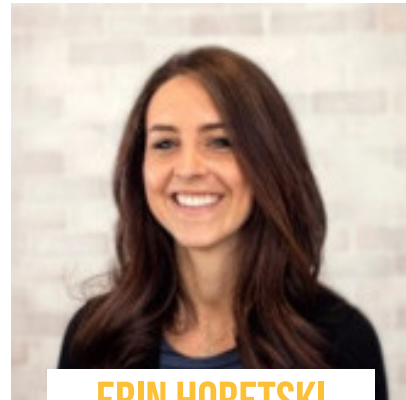
MASHA BOVKUN



ANDREW CHOW



CHAD HORETSKI



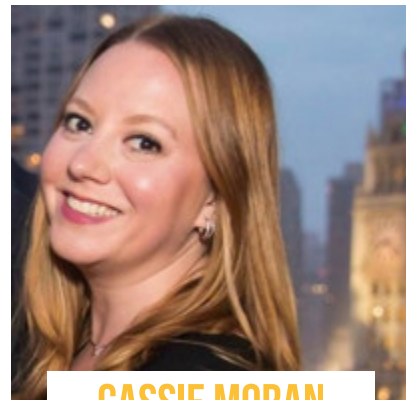
ERIN HORETSKI



RAHUL KODALI



REBECCA LIU



CASSIE MORAN



KEVIN PU



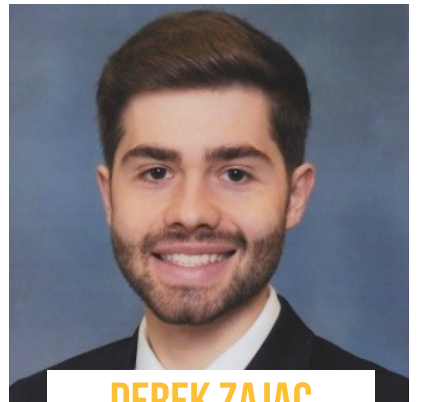
JOEL RABINOWITZ



AVANI SINGH



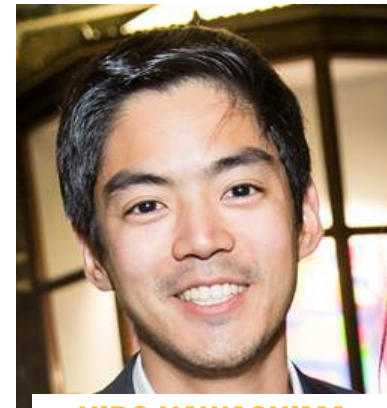
JOSEPH RAFF



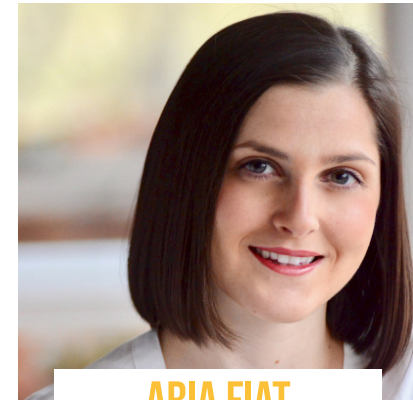
DEREK ZAJAC

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PROVIDES GOVERNANCE AND STRATEGIC SUPPORT TO THE ORGANIZATION, AND GUIDES THE ORGANIZATION'S LEADERS.



HIRO KAWASHIMA



ARIA FIAT



BRIAN BOHL



VANESSA LEE



JAMES ZHAO

GIFT SHOWCASE

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION DONORS

\$9000+

Northwestern University Supplies
Chapter

\$5000 - \$8999

Northern Trust

\$2000 - \$4999

Flowers For Dreams

\$1000 - \$1999

Wilmette Harbor Rotary Club

\$500 - \$999

UBS
Wander & Co.

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$100-999

Julia Cappelletti
Louis Ernst
Ellen Funk
Linda Hertzberg
Chad and Erin Horetski
Anna Gallagher
Alex Jakubowski
Daniel Jankelow
Michael Jorndt
Sharon Kamra
Yuko Kawashima
Rahul Kodali
James Mahoney
Cassandra Moran
Joel Rabinowitz
Joan & Ken Raff
Lissa Shope-Teoman
Samantha Stankowicz
Samantha Yi

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Supplies for Dreams, Inc.
Consolidated Statement of Activities
Year-to-Date (YTD) as of December 31, 2019

	December	2019 YTD
Public Support and Revenue		
Public Support		
Individuals	\$ 3,026	\$ 8,029
Corporations, Foundations and Other Organizations	-	\$ 18,042
Special Event Revenue	-	\$ 3,258
Gifts In-kind	-	\$ 2,994
Interest and Other Income	0	\$ 77
Total Public Support and Revenue	3,026	32,400
Expenditures and Expenses		
Charitable Expenditures and Development		
Programming	1,627	\$ 31,403
Fundraising	8	\$ 3,008
General & Administrative Expenses	877	\$ 10,643
Total Expenditures and Expenses	2,511	45,054
Change in Net Assets	515	(12,654)
Change in Investment Account Year to Date	582	5,005
Net Assets at Beginning of the Year		97,334
Net Assets YTD		\$ 89,686



**SUPPLIES
FOR DREAMS**